

## **CAPSULE SUMMARY**

**BA-0469**

**Oscar Martin House**

**16604 Trenton Road**

**Upperco, Baltimore County**

**1855 ca.**

**Private**

The Oscar Martin House, constructed circa 1855, is representative of the type and style of frame dwellings constructed in the small milling village of Trenton in the mid- to late 19th century and dates to the only significant period of growth in the community. As late as 1850, the village of Zoucksville included only a gristmill, sawmill, and store, all of which were operated by John C. and George Zouck. Additionally, William Brooks had a residence to the north of the mill along Piney Run. Between 1850 and 1877, the name of the village had changed from Zoucksville to Trenton and Trenton Road, the main route through the community, had been extensively developed with residences, barns, and other buildings needed for the survival of a small milling town. The Oscar Martin House dates to this period of Trenton's history. In 1877, H. Martin occupied the dwelling. The village did not grow significantly through the early 20th century.

The Oscar Martin House is a vernacular, two-and-a-half-story, five-bay-wide wood frame dwelling clad in vinyl siding. The building, which sits on a random rubble stone foundation, is capped by a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The dwelling appears to have been constructed over two phases, but this possibility cannot be confirmed solely on the basis of exterior architectural survey. Additionally, mid-20th century alterations have changed the appearance of the façade, or south elevation. One sash-and-paneled single-leaf vinyl door with a vinyl surround flanked by six 1/1 vinyl windows now pierces the façade. The windows are banked into two groups of three with shared vinyl surrounds and sills. The second story features five 1/1 vinyl windows with vinyl surrounds. A single 1/1 window with vinyl surround is located in the intersecting gable peak of the façade. The first story openings are sheltered by a four-bay-wide, full-width wrap-around porch with an asphalt-shingled roof supported by turned wood posts that date to the late 20th century. One-story and two-story wood frame additions have been constructed on the north side of the building. To the northeast of the dwelling is a two-and-a-half-story circa 1900 barn clad in flush vertical board siding with an attached one-and-a-half-story drive through corncrib with a shed roof. A one-story wood frame shed clad in flush vertical board siding is sited to the east of the barn. The circa 1990 garage is a one-story, one-bay-square building with a front gable roof.

# Maryland Historical Trust

## Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties Form

Inventory No. BA-0469

### 1. Name of Property (indicate preferred name)

historic

other Oscar Martin House

### 2. Location

street and number 16604 Trenton Road not for publication

city, town Upperco vicinity

county Baltimore County

### 3. Owner of Property (give names and mailing addresses of all owners)

name Patsy G. Eyler

street and number 16604 Trenton Road telephone Not Available

city, town Upperco state MD zip code 21155

### 4. Location of Legal Description

courthouse, registry of deeds, etc. Baltimore County Courthouse liber 8712 folio 382

city, town Towson tax map 20 tax parcel 96 tax ID number 0513021561

### 5. Primary Location of Additional Data

- ☐ Contributing Resource in National Register District  
☐ Contributing Resource in Local Historic District  
☐ Determined Eligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Determined Ineligible for the National Register/Maryland Register  
☐ Recorded by HABS/HAER  
☐ Historic Structure Report or Research Report at MHT  
☐ Other: \_\_\_\_\_

### 6. Classification

Category	Ownership	Current Function	Resource Count
<input type="checkbox"/> district	<input type="checkbox"/> public	<input type="checkbox"/> agriculture	Contributing
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> building(s)	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> private	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape	Noncontributing
<input type="checkbox"/> structure	<input type="checkbox"/> both	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce/trade	<input type="checkbox"/> buildings
<input type="checkbox"/> site		<input type="checkbox"/> defense	<input type="checkbox"/> sites
<input type="checkbox"/> object		<input type="checkbox"/> domestic	<input type="checkbox"/> structures
		<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> objects
		<input type="checkbox"/> funerary	<input type="checkbox"/> Total
		<input type="checkbox"/> government	
		<input type="checkbox"/> health care	
		<input type="checkbox"/> industry	
		<input type="checkbox"/> recreation/culture	
		<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
		<input type="checkbox"/> social	
		<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
		<input type="checkbox"/> work in progress	
		<input type="checkbox"/> unknown	
		<input type="checkbox"/> vacant/not in use	
		<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

Contributing  Noncontributing

Number of Contributing Resources previously listed in the Inventory

## 7. Description

Inventory No. BA-0469

### Condition

<input type="checkbox"/> excellent	<input type="checkbox"/> deteriorated
<input type="checkbox"/> good	<input type="checkbox"/> ruins
<input type="checkbox"/> fair	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> altered

Prepare both a one paragraph summary and a comprehensive description of the resource and its various elements as it exists today.

Constructed circa 1855 the Oscar Martin House is a vernacular, two-and-a-half-story, five-bay-wide wood frame dwelling clad in vinyl siding. The building, which sits on a random rubble stone foundation, is capped by a side gable roof clad in asphalt shingles. The dwelling appears to have been constructed over two phases, but this possibility cannot be confirmed solely on the basis of exterior architectural survey. Additionally, mid-20<sup>th</sup> century alterations have changed the appearance of the façade, or south elevation. One sash-and-paneled single-leaf vinyl door with a vinyl surround flanked by six 1/1 vinyl windows now pierces the façade. The windows are banked into two groups of three with shared vinyl surrounds and sills. The second story features five 1/1 vinyl windows with vinyl surrounds. A single 1/1 window with vinyl surround is located in the intersecting gable peak of the façade. The first story openings are sheltered by a four-bay-wide, full-width wrap-around porch with an asphalt-shingled roof supported by turned wood posts that date to the late 20<sup>th</sup> century. One-story and two-story wood frame additions have been constructed on the north side of the building.

To the northeast of the dwelling is a circa 1900 barn. The two-and-a-half-story, wood frame building is clad in flush vertical board siding and features a side gable roof clad in standing seam metal and a random rubble stone foundation. Attached to the side of the building is a one-and-a-half-story drive through corncrib with a shed roof.

A one-story wood frame shed clad in flush vertical board siding is sited to the east of the barn. The elongated, rectangular building features a poured concrete foundation and a shed roof clad in standing seam metal. The front of the building is open.

The circa 1990 garage is a one-story, one-bay-square building with a front gable roof. The entire building is clad in standing seam metal. The façade is pierced by one paneled roll-up vinyl door.

## 8. Significance

Inventory No. BA-0469

Period	Areas of Significance	Check and justify below			
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> agriculture	<input type="checkbox"/> economics	<input type="checkbox"/> health/medicine	<input type="checkbox"/> performing arts	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> archeology	<input type="checkbox"/> education	<input type="checkbox"/> industry	<input type="checkbox"/> philosophy	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> engineering	<input type="checkbox"/> invention	<input type="checkbox"/> politics/government	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1900-1999	<input type="checkbox"/> art	<input type="checkbox"/> entertainment/ recreation	<input type="checkbox"/> landscape architecture	<input type="checkbox"/> religion	
<input type="checkbox"/> 2000-	<input type="checkbox"/> commerce	<input type="checkbox"/> ethnic heritage	<input type="checkbox"/> law	<input type="checkbox"/> science	
	<input type="checkbox"/> communications	<input type="checkbox"/> exploration/ settlement	<input type="checkbox"/> literature	<input type="checkbox"/> social history	
	<input type="checkbox"/> community planning		<input type="checkbox"/> maritime history	<input type="checkbox"/> transportation	
	<input type="checkbox"/> conservation		<input type="checkbox"/> military	<input type="checkbox"/> other:	

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<b>Specific dates</b>	1855 ca.-1960 ca.	<b>Architect/Builder</b>	Unknown
<b>Construction dates</b>	1855 ca., 1870 ca., 1960 ca.		

Evaluation for:

☐ National Register

☐ Maryland Register

☒ not evaluated

Prepare a one-paragraph summary statement of significance addressing applicable criteria, followed by a narrative discussion of the history of the resource and its context. (For compliance projects, complete evaluation on a DOE Form – see manual.)

The Oscar Martin House, constructed circa 1855, is representative of the type and style of frame dwellings constructed in the small milling village of Trenton in the mid- to late 19<sup>th</sup> century and dates to the only significant period of growth in the community. As late as 1850, the village of Zoucksville included only a gristmill, sawmill, and store, all of which were operated by John C. and George Zouck.<sup>1</sup> Additionally, William Brooks had a residence to the north of the mill along Piney Run.<sup>2</sup> Between 1850 and 1877, the name of the village had changed from Zoucksville to Trenton and Trenton Road, the main route through the community, had been extensively developed with residences, barns, and other buildings needed for the survival of a small milling town. The Oscar Martin House dates to this period of Trenton's history. In 1877, H. Martin occupied the dwelling.<sup>3</sup> By 1881, Trenton's population had reached 75, and the village included a public school, Methodist Episcopal Church, United Brethren Church, and a Lutheran Church. The Independent Order of Mechanics also established a lodge in the village.<sup>4</sup> The village continued to maintain only these few buildings and did not grow significantly through the early 20<sup>th</sup> century. The 1915 county atlas indicates confirms this lack of growth.<sup>5</sup> Trenton has retained its late 19<sup>th</sup> century character into the 21<sup>st</sup> century.

<sup>1</sup> Neal A. Brooks and Eric G. Rockel, *A History of Baltimore County* (Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979), p. 187.

<sup>2</sup> J.C. Sidney, *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys* (Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850).

<sup>3</sup> *Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland* (Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877).

<sup>4</sup> J. Thomas Scharf, *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men* (Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA), p. 869.

<sup>5</sup> *Map of Baltimore County* (Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915).

## 9. Major Bibliographical References

Inventory No. BA-0469

- Atlas of Baltimore County, Maryland.* Philadelphia, PA: G. M. Hopkins, 1877.  
Baltimore County Historic Inventory.  
Brooks, Neal A. and Eric G. Rockel. *A History of Baltimore County.* Towson, MD: Friends of the Towson Library, Inc., 1979.  
*Map of Baltimore County.* Philadelphia, PA: G. W. Bromley, 1915.  
Scharf, J. Thomas. *History of Baltimore City and County From the Earliest Period to the Present Day: Including Biographical Sketches of Their Representative Men.* Philadelphia, PA: Louis H. Everts, 1881. Reprinted by Higginson Book Company, Salem, MA.  
Sidney, J. C. *Map of the City and County of Baltimore, Maryland, from Original Surveys.* Baltimore, MD: James M. Stephens, 1850.

## 10. Geographical Data

Acreage of surveyed property .50 Acre  
Acreage of historical setting Unknown  
Quadrangle name Hampstead

Quadrangle scale: 1:24,000

### Verbal boundary description and justification

Since its construction circa 1870, the Oscar Martin House has been associated with the 4.87 acres known as tax parcel 96 of map 20 located in the Baltimore County Tax Assessor's office.

## 11. Form Prepared by

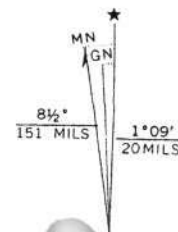
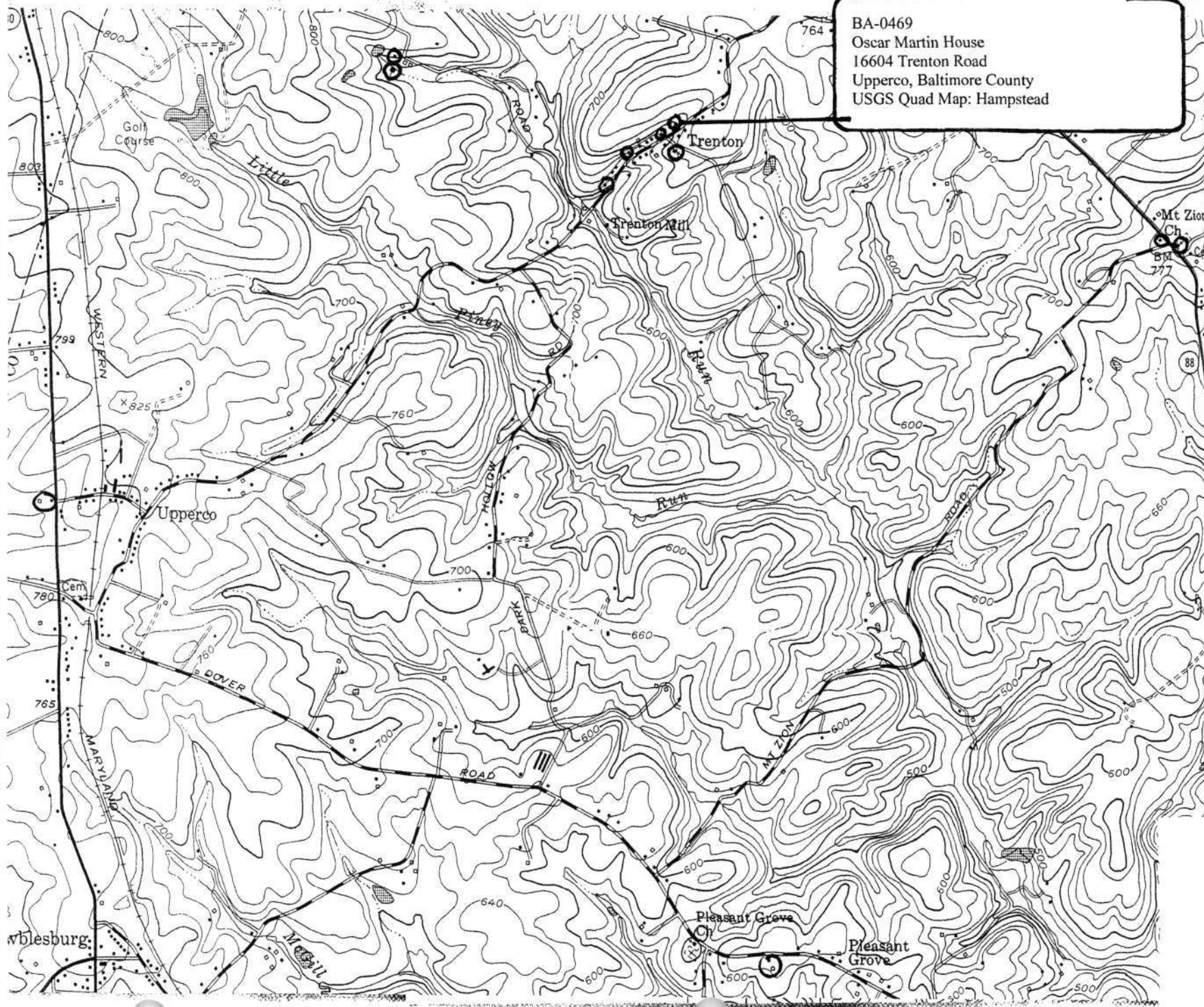
name/title	A. McDonald and A. Didden, Architectural Historians		
organization	EHT Tracerics, Incorporated	date	May 8, 2001
street & number	1121 5th Street NW	telephone	202.393.1199
city or town	Washington	state	DC

The Maryland Inventory of Historic Properties was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 supplement.

The survey and inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

return to: Maryland Historical Trust  
DHCD/DHCP  
100 Community Place  
Crownsville, MD 21032-2023  
410-514-7600

BA-0469  
Oscar Martin House  
16604 Trenton Road  
Upperco, Baltimore County  
USGS Quad Map: Hampstead



UTM GRID A 74 MAGNETIC NORTH  
DECLINATION CENTER OF SHEET



BA-0469

16604 TRENTON ROAD

UPPER LO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRACERIES

3/2001

MD-SHPD

SE CORNER

1 of 5



BA-0469

16604 TRENTON ROAD

UPPER LO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERES

3/2001

MD-SHEP

NE CORNER

2 of 5



BA-0469

16604 TRENTON ROAD

UPPER LO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

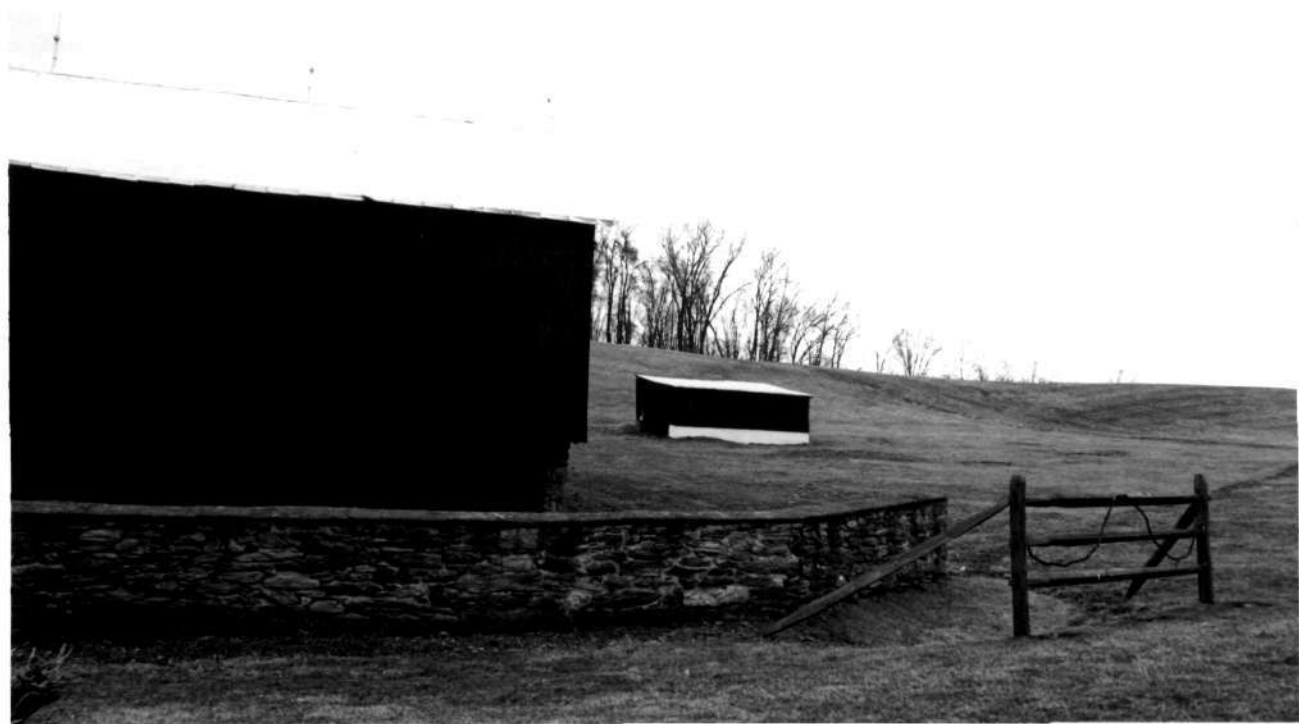
TRAILERIES

3/2001

MO-STEP

NW CORNER

3 of 5



BA-0469

16604 TRENTON ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERIES

3/2001

MO-STRD

OUTBUILDINGS

4 of 5



BA-0469

16604 TRENTON ROAD

UPPERLO

BALTIMORE COUNTY, MD

TRAILERES

3/2001

MD-SHP0

OUT BUILDINGS

5 of 5

BA- 469

**OSCAR MARTIN HOUSE** - 1850-1875 - North side of Trenton Road, 0.45 mile southwest of Black Rock Road. The H. Martin house of 1877 atlas inset map of Trenton Village. Victorian, 2-½ story house with gable roof and aluminum siding over presumably frame construction; 5 bays wide; porch on two sides of house, its roof supported by cast-iron columns (painted black) and topped by Corinthian capitals. Owner: Harry R. Martin.